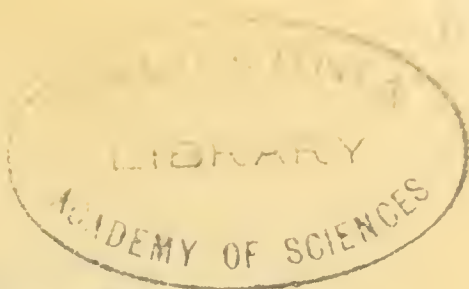


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THE

MONTHLY



GULL

BULLETIN

VOLUME 10

SAN FRANCISCO, NOVEMBER, 1928

NUMBER 11

NOVEMBER MEETING: The next regular meeting of the Audubon Association of the Pacific will be held on Thursday evening, the 8th inst., at 8 o'clock in the Board Room of the State Harbor Commissioners, Ferry Building, Room 19, second floor.

Dr. Gayle B. Pickwell, Chief of Nature Study Department, State Teachers College, San Jose, Calif., will speak on the subjects:

"Growth and Reactions of the Barn Owl" and
"Some Observations of the White Tailed Kite"

and illustrate same with lantern slides.



NOVEMBER FIELD TRIP will be taken on Sunday, November 11th, to Fairfax and over the old grade to Bon Tempe and the head of Alpine Lake, returning via Lake Lagunitas and the fish grade to Ross, a distance of about ten miles.

Purchase round trip ticket to Fairfax, 60c, and take Sausalito ferry leaving foot of Market St. at 8:15 a. m. Bring lunch and canteens.



PROCEEDINGS OF THE OCTOBER MEETING: The attendance was notably large; many visitors being present, no doubt interested in the unique subject, the "Memorial Aviarium to the Birds and Bird-men of the Pacific", which was presented by Mrs. Jeanne de Francoeur.

The speaker said in part, "my subject is possibly in some sense novel; yet I feel that it has been already—happily I should say—ornithologically anticipated by the Audubon Association of the Pacific and their confreres.

"Just last August a University of California clip-sheet made known the fact that 'The State of California has been selected as a promised land for rare species of foreign birds which are threatened with extinction.' Again the caption of your Association, 'of the Pacific', demonstrates a prevision of avian-contact that converging events have strangely justified and already approved by actual selection. I value such confirmation, as not simply coincidental, but rather as due to some innate qualification which time will not permit me at

present to analyze further. If I tell you that the form of 'Memorium' we have adopted was directly prompted by the fact that both 'flyers' who are immediately associated in its inception, Captain Bill Erwin and Navigator Alvin Eichwaldt, whose deathless story is already enshrined in the hearts of the people of the Pacific, were from earliest boyhood bird-men and devoted students of bird-life in field and class-room, I feel in telling you so, that I would elicit your kinship of sympathy; while to express in behalf of the 'Memorial' Committee its desire for your experience and expert advice would be to make us recipients of your beneficent co-operation."

Judge J. Harder, Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, Hayward, Chairman of "Memorial" arrangements added some interesting details of how the people of Hayward with full heart backed up this unique service, which is destined to win a world's sympathy as well as a world's pilgrimage. The fact that California has the climate that can offer "board and long life" to tropical and sub-tropical birds will be a fact that will prove of realistic value.

Capt. W. B. Voortneyer, U. S. N., Oakland, very happily illuminated with attractive associations other facets of the understanding; while Mrs. C. Pitkin Brock of San Jose, a veteran expert of rare birds, spoke of the exotic plants, some selected for beauty, some for fragrance, that will flank the boarders' bungalows, the ultimate founding of educational sanctuaries where, amongst the foreigners, special home-birds may be studied, by Audubonists and others who under present conditions are unable to do so. At an early date specimens of the "Memorial" birds will be demonstrated to the Audubon Association of the Pacific.



POISONING OF GROUND BIRDS

The California Audubon Society, Los Angeles, requested Dr. D'Evelyn to represent their Society at the Annual meeting of the State Humane Association, meeting in San Francisco, Oct. 19 and 20 "Upon the wholesale poisoning of ground birds, especially doves, by throwing of poison grain on ground for squirrels." Dr. D'Evelyn reported back that the Division of Fish and Game were fully cognizant of this somewhat complex subject. The Penal and Political codes are ample as safeguards. In each case of loss of birds reported "such loss has been traced to the improper or careless use of poisoned grain." Let the Audubonists recognize that some one has blundered.



WELCOME TO "THE PHAINOPEPLA"

Our elder sister in the South has given light to a new offspring, "The Phainopepla" (monthly) Bulletin of the California Audubon Society, and with pride and delight, THE GULL welcomes its little cousin, and augurs for it a prosperous and useful life. Already No. 2 has appeared, having discarded its swaddling clothes and dressed in a more adult suit.

The California Audubon Society will certainly make a success of its new periodical and through it add to its numerous accomplishments in favor of wild bird life in California.

The Twenty-second Annual Report of the California Audubon Society quite appropriately brings also an epitome of its history and activities previous to "coming of age." The record is a precocious one from the beginning with many valuable accomplishments. In true fraternal spirit we profess our admiration, and proudly we see a reflection of something of our past, though of some eleven years less, happy that our commendation need not be tinged with any envy.

Our own history, which had been ordered written on our tenth anniversary, will reveal where the Audubon Association of the Pacific had participated in some of the work, though it may not have been necessary to have recorded the same in the California Audubon Society's list of its own efforts. And, Dear Sister, will you please to call us by our right name?

AUDUBON ASSOCIATION OF THE PACIFIC



PUBLICATIONS

"The Phainopepla", California Audubon Society, has already appeared in two numbers; it publishes a monthly calendar of birds, gives records of observations and has a directory of Audubon societies of the State; apparently each number will contain a description, self-told, of a California bird.

"The Owls of California", Teachers' Bulletin No. 10 of the Fish and Game Commission has fifteen pages of very interesting and useful matter on the owls of our State. As should be expected, the matter is authoritative and valuable for reference. The pamphlet should have wide distribution among farmers, especially to correct erroneous prejudices against the useful birds. (By Donald D. McLean.)



OCTOBER FIELD TRIP was taken on Sunday, October 14th, to Lake Merced, under the leadership of Miss Ethel Crum. It was a delightful day for birding, being fair and mild.

The party formed at Sloat Boulevard and 40th Ave. and took the usual route to the lake. On our trip thru the forest, we saw green-backed goldfinches, Audubon warblers, song sparrows, Oregon juncos, a black phoebe, and a sharp-shinned hawk.

Our first view of the lake presented a white-winged scoter. In wandering around the lake, we saw Pacific yellow-throats and had occasional views of the noisy tule wrens.

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Further along on the west bank of the lake, we were delighted with a Sora rail family. First Mr. Rail came out of the tule grass, then Mrs. Rail followed a bit more shyly and finally the two youngsters stalked out boldly. We had splendid views of them.

On ascending the hill near the Skyline Boulevard, we saw pine siskins, fox sparrows, and ruby-crowned kinglets. While eating lunch, we were entertained by an American bittern and also saw eared and pied-billed grebes and blackbirds.

Our walk followed the bridle path, skirting the lake. We noticed a cormorant on a post in the water, and strange to relate, there was a great blue heron on an adjoining post.

After leaving the lake, the party proceeded up Bryant Canyon to Daly City, where the party boarded the cars.

Birds encountered were: Eared, western, and pied-billed grebes; Farallone double-crested cormorant; California great blue heron, American bittern; mallard, white-winged scoter, scaup, and ruddy ducks; sharp-shinned and western red-tailed hawks; desert sparrow hawk; Coast California quail; sora rail; northern kildeer; northern phalarope; western and California gulls; northern burrowing owl; Anna hummingbird; Monterey red-shafted flicker; black phoebe; Santa Cruz chestnut-backed chickadee, Pacific Coast bushtit; intermediate wren-tit; Vigors Bewick and tule marsh wrens; dwarf hermit thrush; western robin; western ruby-crowned kinglet; California loggerhead shrike; California Hutton vireo; Pacific Audubon warbler, San Francisco yellow-throat; western meadowlark, San Francisco red-winged blackbird, California Brewer blackbird; California linnet, northern pine siskin, green-backed Arkansas goldfinch, San Francisco spotted towhee, fox sparrow. Oregon junco, golden-crowned, Nuttall white-crowned, and Santa Cruz song sparrows. On the bay: American white pelican; western sandpiper. Forty-nine species.

Members in attendance: Mesdames Braceln, Myer; Misses Boegle, Cohen, Ethel Crum, Mott, Pettit, Richards; Messrs. De Fremery, Jenks, Lockerbie, Myer. As guests: Miss Bennett; Messrs. Bob Brown, Bob Crowe, Douglas Crowe, Norman Peterson, Alfred Weiler. Twelve members and six guests.

ETHEL L. MYER, Historian.

AUDUBON ASSOCIATION OF THE PACIFIC

FOR THE STUDY AND THE PROTECTION OF BIRDS

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Meets second Thursday of each month at 8:00 p.m., in the Board Room of the State Board of Harbor Commissioners, Ferry Building, Second Floor, Room 19.

Address Bulletin correspondence to the Corresponding Secretary.

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